



# Before the Storm

Indiana Association for Floodplain and Stormwater Management

WINTER 2014 - 2015

## 2014 Conference and Awards Highlights

**2015 INAFSM  
ANNUAL  
CONFERENCE  
SEPTEMBER 9-11**

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**RESERVE YOUR  
LODGING NOW**

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Pictured: Left to Right— Mary Moran, IDHS; Roger Gage, City of Decatur—accepting on behalf of Gary Harrison; Jan Crider, IDHS; Jeremy Van Erman, Madison County Stormwater Partnership; Kathleen Weissenberger, IN Office of Community and Rural Affairs; Matthew Lake, Town of Merrillville Stormwater Utility; Zach Beasley, INAFSM Chair; Rodney Renkenberger, Maumee River Basin Commission.

The 18th Annual Conference was held in Brown County at the Abe Martin Lodge. Each year more people recognize the value of this educational experience.

The conference allows the organization the opportunity to recognize projects and people through the awards ceremony during lunch on Thursday. We take that opportunity to recognize the people, organizations, and projects that are making advances and getting the word out on floodplain and stormwater management.

**Excellence in Floodplain Management**  
Throughout her career, Kathleen Weissen-

berger has made significant contributions to the field of floodplain management. Her job at the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs means that she can impact floodplain projects throughout the entire state. Kathleen's participation in many statewide projects has had a tremendous impact on a number of projects including:

- Funding statewide LiDAR
- Indiana Fluvial Erosion Hazard Program
- Funding numerous USGS Flood Inundation Libraries
- Funding dam breach inundation mapping

**Excellence in Stormwater Management**  
Jeremy Van Erman has had a great impact on

# LTAP 2015 Conference



The 2015 Indiana LTAP Stormwater Drainage Conference will be held on Thursday, February 12th. The event is being co-hosted by the following groups: LTAP, INAFSM, Association of County Surveyors, and Indiana Society of Professional Land Surveyors.

This year's conference will continue to allow professionals to focus on both the planning and technical issues of stormwater drainage.

Lunch will be provided and is sponsored by the exhibitors. PDH/CEU credits will be available to licensed land surveyors and engineers.

A link to the brochure and registration may be found on the [INAFSM website](#).

## Awards - Continued

*INAFSM is currently accepting nominations for the 2015 Awards.*

*Nominations will be accepted until May 29,*

*2015. Nomination forms and categories may be found on the INAFSM*

*website. Any questions*

*please contact the*

*Awards Chair at*

*[awards@inafsm.net](mailto:awards@inafsm.net)*

the City of Anderson Stormwater Program and provided assistance to many smaller communities in Madison County. He currently serves as the Chairman of the Madison County Stormwater Partnership, and has worked to incorporate the Partnership into Anderson Schools. The partnership was able to give presentations at Highland Middle School over the last year. Jeremy also assists the Partnership with programs for fairs, parades, and field days.

### **Outstanding Stormwater Project**

The Merrillville 54th Court Bioremediation and Roadway Runoff Control project was the construction of a rain garden in the center island of a street owned and maintained by the Town. The rain garden is bordered by a buffer zone of low-mow fescue that serves as an energy dissipater to prevent scouring and sediment deposition. The design of the project was a joint effort between Merrillville SW Utility, Arsh Group, and Robinson Engineering. The project included reconstruction of the entire roadway to redesign and grade the roadway flow towards the rain garden and incorporate proper drainage. Interpretative signage was included, and the site now serves as a demonstration site to encourage retrofits of this infiltration BMP which has numerous benefits.

### **Outstanding Floodplain Project**

WFYI, along with partners, Indiana Silver Jackets, the Polis Center, and numerous other contributors (FEMA, IDHS, Indiana Historical Society, US Geological Survey, NOAA, National Weather Service, and IDNR) produced a documentary film marking the 100th Anniversary of the Great 1913 Flood. The film, titled "When Every River Turned Against Us: Lessons from the Great 1913 Flood," tells the forgotten story of one of the nation's worst natural disasters.

### **Chairman's Award for Outstanding Service in Support of INAFSM**

Rodney Renkenberger was awarded the Chairman's Award because of his ongoing commitment to INAFSM. Rod has served as both a past and current Board member, and is also a past chair. He has also made his knowledge and experience available to the Chairman, and is always available to talk and answer questions.

### **Special Recognition Award**

This award was presented to Jan Crider in recognition of her many years of service as the State Hazard Mitigation Officer, and her many efforts to help advance the organization throughout Indiana.

# INDOT Liaison to join INAFSM Board of Directors



INAFSM is pleased to announce that its Board of Directors will now have representation from the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT). A staff member from INDOT has been added as a liaison member, and has been added to a group of statewide and national organizations and departments that

participate including Indiana Department of Natural Resources, National Flood Insurance Program, Indiana Department of Homeland Security, Indiana Department of Environmental Management, and US Geological Service.

The INAFSM Board greatly appreciates hearing from members about their concerns. The lack of representation from INDOT was an issue INAFSM members noted in 2014 that they would like to see changed. INDOT's Nathan Saxe, who serves as the manager of the Ecology and Waterway Permitting Office, will fill the liaison position on the INAFSM Board. The Ecology and Waterway Permitting Office is a part of INDOT's Environmental Services Division.

For more information on INDOT's work in stormwater issues please visit [their website](#).

**USEFUL TOOL** — Check out this new useful tool on [Floodsmart.gov](#). You can type in any address and it will provide you with the risk level of the property as well as estimated annual flood insurance premiums if you are in a Moderate to Low Risk category. In all instances you are given the list of local agents that sell flood insurance.

## Floodplain Training Opportunities

All training opportunities may be found on the INAFSM website along with applicable flyers and links to the organization's website. If viewing this newsletter electronically, click the event to be redirected to the page.

ASFPM Members can find a member promo code on their ASFPM online account for their webinars.

February 12 — [Nonstructural Floodproofing Techniques for At-Risk Development](#)

March 27 — [Finding that Base Flood Elevation \(BFE\)](#)

April 16 — [Lender Based Flood Zone Determinations: Essentials for Floodplain Managers](#)

Are there any training opportunities that you know of and would like to share with other members? Please contact the Outreach Chair at [outreach@inafsm.net](mailto:outreach@inafsm.net) with the information.

**A complete list of all training opportunities may be found on the INAFSM Calendar of Events at [INAFSM.net](#)**

## Stormwater Training Opportunities

All training opportunities may be found on the INAFSM website along with applicable flyers and links to the organization's website. If viewing this newsletter electronically, click the event to be redirected to the page.

February 25 — [Introduction to RUSLE2: Applications for Construction Site Erosion Control](#)

March 10-July 30 — [Surface Water Master Class](#) (webinar)

March 18 — [Construction Site Erosion and Sediment Control](#) (webinar)

Are there any training opportunities that you know of and would like to share with other members? Please contact the Outreach Chair at [outreach@inafsm.net](mailto:outreach@inafsm.net) with the information.



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**INAFSM** encourages interested parties to contribute articles, photographs, and other items of interest for publication. Items and other editorial matters should be directed to:

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**"A unique opportunity for anyone involved with floodplain and stormwater management."**

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